



Department of Energy  
Richland Operations Office  
P.O. Box 550  
Richland, Washington 99352

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APR 25 1996

Mr. Steve M. Alexander  
Perimeter Areas Section Manager  
Nuclear Waste Program  
State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
1315 W. Fourth Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336-6018

Dear Mr. Alexander:

GROUNDWATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT AT 100-D PONDS

The 100-D Ponds facility is a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act unit, and is subject to requirements of WAC 173-303-400 and 40 CFR 265. As discussed in the U.S. Department of Energy, Richland Operations Office, letter to the State of Washington, Department of Ecology (Ecology) "Letter of Notification: Exceedance of pH Critical Mean in Groundwater at 100-D Ponds," dated April 2, 1996, pH in groundwater from a downgradient well is statistically greater than background values. Ecology was notified of the results as required by the regulations.

A groundwater quality assessment plan must be submitted to Ecology within 15 days of the initial notification [40 CFR 265.93(d)(2)] and results of the assessment must be submitted when available. An assessment of 100-D Ponds groundwater was completed for a groundwater impact assessment in 1993. The elevated pH originates from coal ash under the 100-D Ponds facility, not from the facility itself. Therefore, the site may remain in indicator evaluation monitoring.

Attached please find the "100-D Ponds Groundwater Quality Assessment" report, WHC-SD-EN-EV-033, Rev. 0, which summarizes and updates the results of the former assessment, and is intended to fill the requirements for an assessment plan and report.

If you have questions, please contact me on 373-9630.

Sincerely,

Marvin J. Furman, Project Manager  
Groundwater Projects

GWP:MJF

cc w/o attach:  
D. G. Horton, WHC  
J. D. Williams, WHC

NO ATTACHMENTS RECEIVED

